



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

George Harry Hoffman et al.

Title:

SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR USE OF BAR CODES IN A SUPPLY

CHAIN MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.:

09/815,580

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner:

Ahshik Kim

Art Unit:

2876

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability, as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie art reference against t傾claims of the present application.

## TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

#### RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The foregoing documents were cited in the International Search Report in Applicants' International Application PCT/US02/08287. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

### **STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 12, 2002

**FOLEY & LARDNER** Customer Number: 22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 26,874

PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO Complete if Known INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Application Number 09/815.580 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Filing Date 03/23/2001 First Named Inventor George Harry Hoffman et al. Date Submitted: September 12, 2002 Group Art Unit 2876 (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Ahshik Kim of Attorney Docket Number 062834-0104

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Datastas as Assistant of	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant	
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	A1	5,950,173		PERKOWSKI	09/07/1999		
	A2	6,084,528		BEACH ET AL.	07/04/2000		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)		Kind Code <sup>5</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Тв
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OTHER PRIOR ART	- NON PATENT LITERA	TURE DOCUMENTS	
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.